Testing Recommendations for Residential Water Wells Neighboring Natural Gas Well Development Sites

There is a community concern that private wells may be affected by the natural gas drilling that will be done in Tioga County. It is strongly recommended for owners of private wells to have their water tested to determine a baseline of element levels in the water. If a baseline is established, then it would be possible to determine if the well has been contaminated after drilling has been done. The elements that the Tioga County Health Department is recommending to test for are as follows:

- Arsenic
- Barium
- Calcium
- Chloride
- Detergents
- Hardness (Calcium & Magnesium)
- Iron & Lead
- Manganese
- Methane
- Oil & Grease
- PH
- Sodium
- Strontium
- Total Dissolved Solids
- Total Suspended Solids
- Volatile Organic Compounds

All potable water samples should only be analyzed by a laboratory properly certified by the NYSDOH Environmental Laboratory Approval Program (ELAP). Listed are four labs that are within the surrounding area that are equipped to handle these types of water tests.

- Community Science Institute, Inc  607-257-6606
- Microbac New York  607-565-2893
- Environmental Associates LTD  607-272-8902
- Yaws Environmental Laboratory  607-277-7128

To have your water tested please contact the lab first for further protocols and procedures that are specific to each lab. This information is being provided to by the TING committee for public awareness.